

Appl. No. 10/518,244
Amendment dated March 23, 2006
Reply to Office Action of December 30, 2005

Interview Summary

On March 7, 2006, the undersigned conducted a telephonic interview with Examiner John Sipos, who is in charge of the above-identified patent application. During the interview, Applicants' representative has notified Examiner Sipos that the Preliminary Amendment does not seem to have been considered. The Examiner Sipos then instructed the undersigned to file this Response. Applicants wish to thank Examiner Sipos for his courteous interview and the opportunity to discuss the above-identified patent application during the March 7, 2006 Interview.

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In view of the foregoing comments, Applicants respectfully request that the Office Action of December 30, 2005 be withdrawn and a new Office Action be issued with all of claims 1-16 being considered.

Respectfully submitted,



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IS-US040596



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of :
Kazuya SUGIMURA et al. :
Serial No.: National Entry of PCT JP2004/009002 :
Filed: Herewith :
June 25, 2004 (International Filing Date) :
For: SEASONING PROCESSING SYSTEM :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please amend the subject application as follows.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the *Listing of Claims*, which begins on page 8 of this paper. Claims 1-16 are pending, with claims 1 and 9 being the only independent claims.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 13 of this paper.

APPENDIX A